

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NIAMEY 01905 121550Z

43

ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-20 SP-03 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00

RSC-01 DODE-00 L-03 DRC-01 /057 W

----- 128212

O R 121413Z JUN 74 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

TO USDAO ABIDJAN IMMEDIATE

INFO USDAO MONROVIA

SECSTATE WASHDC 8067

C O N F I D E N T I A L NIAMEY 1905

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA NG

SUBJECT: VISIT OF DATT AIRCRAFT TO NIGER, JUNE 18 - 22

1. DESPITE ORAL ASSURANCES THAT DATT AIRCRAFT FROM MONROVIA HAD FLIGHT CLEARANCES FOR NIGER TRIP, GON HAS LOWERED BOOM ON US AND IN NOTE DATED JUNE 11 HAS ASKED THAT INLAND TRIP BE "POSTPONED". IN SUBSEQUENT DISCUSSION OF MATTER MFA DIRECTOR OF CABINET ILLA SALIFOU, TOLD DCM THAT AIRCRAFT AND PASSENGERS WERE STILL WELCOME TO VISIT NIAMEY JUNE 18 AS SCHEDULED BUT PERMISSION GRANTED ONLY FOR NIAMEY AREA AND NOT REPEAT NOT REST OF COUNTRY.

2. SALIFOU INFORMED DCM IN CONFIDENCE THAT NEW GOVERNMENT WAS FAMILIAR WITH DATT'S PERIODIC VISITS OF THIS NATURE TO NIGER AND ALL RELEVANT MINISTRIES HAD RECOMMENDED APPROVAL BUT CHIEF OF STATE KOUNTCHE HAD OVERRULED THEM CITING BAN ON TRAVEL OF DIPLOMATS WITHIN NIGER IMPOSED AT TIME OF COUP AND NOT YET LIFTED.

3. WE ARE URGENTLY SEEKING CONFIRMATION FROM MFA IN WRITING THAT AIRCRAFT STILL HAS CLEARANCE FOR JUNE 18 VISIT. WE REGRET THIS DEVELOPMENT WHICH FORCES CANCELLATION OF IN-COUNTRY TRIP, BUT ASSUMING WE OBTAIN WRITTEN CONFIRMATION OF MFA'S ORAL ASSURANCES ABOUT JUNE 18 ARRIVAL, WE HOPE DATT WILL MAINTAIN THIS LEG OF TRIP. WE ARE,
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OF COURSE, READY SCHEDULE ANY APPOINTMENTS DESIRED IN

NIAMEY AND LOOK FORWARD TO VISIT. WE ALSO BELIEVE IT
USEFUL TO REGISTER PERIODICITY OF THESE VISITS WITH
NEW GOVERNMENT.
HECK

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
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Concepts: MILITARY AIRCRAFT, GOVERNMENT OVERTHROW, TOURISM, INTERIM GOVERNMENT, VISITS
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Draft Date: 12 JUN 1974
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Disposition Authority: izenbei0
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